## FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE DARBY ACCORD PANEL DISCUSSION

THE DARBY CREEK ASSOCIATION INVITES THE PUBLIC TO MEET WITH A PANEL OF PLANNING AND DEVELOPMENT EXPERTS RELATED TO THE DARBY ACCORD

Date and Time: Thursday, March 16, 7:00 - 9:00 p.m. (doors open at 6:00 p.m.)

Location: Darby House (on the Darby Dan Farm); 925 Darby Creek Drive

(south of Route 40)

Contact: Don Eckhart (Email: eckhart819@yahoo.com; Phone: 878-5416)

The Darby Creek Association, in cooperation with the Building Industry Association of Central Ohio and 1000 Friends of Central Ohio, will sponsor a panel presentation and discussion for landowners, residents, and other stakeholders of the Darby Creek area. The panel will discuss ways to protect landowners' economic interests, while at the same time protecting the Darby Creek watershed, including answering questions on the minds of local residents related to the Darby Accord.

The meeting is being presented as a public information forum in cooperation with the Darby Accord jurisdictions, which include the City of Columbus and local governments in western Franklin County. The Darby Accord was initiated to find ways to preserve the ecological character of the Big and Little Darby Creeks with responsible governmental and private action. The Darby Creeks contain unique aquatic habitat, and the creeks are considered a valuable natural resource worthy of being maintained and enhanced.

The meeting will take place at the Darby House (on the Darby Dan Farm) at 925 Darby Creek Drive, south of Route 40. The doors will open at 6:00 p.m., and people may view informational displays. Presentations will begin at 7:00 pm.

To help answer questions and be resources to property owners and the public, a panel of experts has been formed. Panel members will include representatives from The Ohio State University, MSI planning consultants, Metro Parks, Ohio Department of Natural Resources, and other experienced legal and development professionals.

The session will begin with each member of the panel making individual comments related to the Darby Accord's recommendations for balancing development with water quality protection in the watershed. The remainder of the panel's time will be devoted to addressing questions and comments from the audience. Information will also be available about upcoming opportunities to participate in the Darby Accord process.